## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. H. 3184

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TO: The Honorable James H. Harrison, Chairman, House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board

ANALYSTS: Rodney Grizzle, Patricia Tangney

DATE: March 28, 2005 SBD: 2005315

AUTHOR: Representative Harrison PRIMARY CODE CITE: 1-23-320

SUBJECT: Administrative Procedures Appeals to go to the Court of Appeals

#### ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

### ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

#### **BILL SUMMARY:**

House Bill 3184 amends various sections of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by changing the Judicial Review of Administrative Decision by allowing cases heard by the Administrative Law Judges to be directly appealed to the Court of Appeals.

## **EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

## <u>**Iudicial Department**</u>

The Department indicates there will be a recurring cost to the General Fund of the State of approximately \$347,519 for salary and fringe benefits, office allowance and travel for one Appeals Judge, one secretary and two clerks. The department anticipates one-time cost of approximately \$42,280 for furniture and computer equipment. The Department also indicates there will have to be renovations to the Appeals Court Building to accommodate a new judge and staff. Currently the building is at capacity and would require renovations to meet the requirements of this Bill. The costs of these renovations are not included in this estimate, but would be significant.

# Administrative Law Court

This Bill will generate approximately 35-40 new cases per year for the Administrative Law Court. Because the new cases will be appellate jurisdiction, the agency reports that any costs incurred to the General Fund will be minimal and can be absorbed at its current level of funding.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

## **SPECIAL NOTES:**

None.

Approved by:

Don Addy

Assistant Director, Office of State Budget